

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/463,082 Confirmation No.: 5840
Applicant : Nair et al.
Filed : July 10, 2000
Group Art Unit: 1617
Examiner : Mitchell, Gregory W.
For : Method For Detection of Fibrin Clots
Docket No. : 5-00
Customer No. : 23713

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

On March 16th and 17th, 2004, Examiner Gregory W. Mitchell and Supervisor Examiner Sreeni Padmanabhan participated in a telephone interview with Stephen B. Barone and Lorraine Greenlee, representatives for the Applicants, relating to the pending Office Action of January 11, 2005. Examiners Mitchell and Padmanabhan are sincerely thanked for providing this opportunity to discuss the pending Office Action in this application.

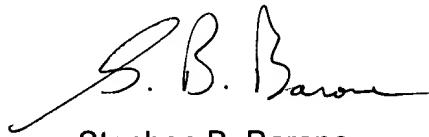
Pending rejections of the Office Action of January 11, 2005, were discussed. In addition, amendments to the claims proposed by the Applicants were discussed along with arguments against the pending rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103.

The scope of the disclosures in U.S. Patent No. 5,217,705 (Reno et al.) and International Publication No. WO 93/15768 (Watson et al.) was discussed. Applicants argued that the combination Reno et al. and Watson et al. did not enable synthesis of a graphite particle having surface bound fibrin binding proteins, relied upon by the Examiner in the pending rejections. Particularly, Applicants argued that the step of conjugating fibrin binding proteins to the surface of a graphite particle in a manner retaining the biological activity of the surface bound fibrin binding proteins is missing from the combination of Reno et al. and Watson et al. Applicant also argued that the limitation in claim 82

characterizing the composition of the diagnostic particles in the context of how they are formed is not disclosed or suggested in the combination Reno et al. and Watson et al.

Proposed amendments to the claims for the purpose of expediting prosecution were discussed. Applicant proposed introducing the limitation "wherein said particles exhibit a specific affinity for said fibrin" to clarify this chemical property important in the methods of the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,



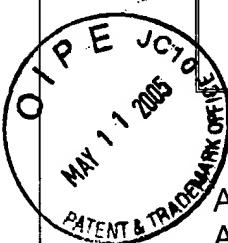
Stephen B. Barone
Reg. No. 53,968

Greenlee, Winner and Sullivan, P.C.
4875 Pearl East Circle, Suite 200
Boulder, Colorado 80301
Telephone: (303) 499-8080
Facsimile: (303) 499-8089
Email: winner@greenwin.com
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I hereby certify that the following correspondence, along with any other document referred to as being attached or enclosed,:

1. Amendment (15 pages)
2. Petition for One-Month Extension of Time (1 page)
3. Interview Summary (2 pages)
4. Check in the amount of \$120.00
5. Return Postcard

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On May 11, 2005

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